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TROOPS ASSIGNED TO BORDER DEFENSE RETURN HOME

PA280414 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0003 GMT 28 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Juan, Argentina, 27 Jan (TELAM)--In a ceremony held at the historic Convent of Santo Domingo, where the cell is preserved in which General San Martin rested, contingents of troops from different zones of the country were dismissed today after facing the responsibility of protecting the borders in this province and began returning to their regular stations.

The military array, which was witnessed by a large crowd, was presided over by Lt Col Alfredo Cordoba, operations chief for the San Juan sector, and was attended by Lt Col Roberto Sosa, chief of the area and of the 142d Motorized Infantry Regiment, and Col Guillermo Alfredo Juan Volet, chief of the provincial police.

After playing the national anthem, Lieutenant Colonel Cordoba addressed the assembled soldiers and told them that "you can go with a clear conscience and the satisfaction of having done your duty, because our presence, our attitude and aptitude for combat have permitted the start of a historic stage at the negotiating table in which Argentina will never again renounce that which is legitimately its own." The ceremony ended with a parade of the troops along Liberator General San Martin Avenue.

FORMER PERONIST POLICE CHIEF ORDERED ARRESTED

PY270244 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0010 GMT 27 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jan (LATIN)--According to judicial sources, the courts today ordered the preventive arrest of Gen Miguel Angel Iniguez, former police chief during the last Peronist government, for having ordered the release of terrorist Mario Eduardo Firmenich, leader of the Montoneros guerrilla group.

Iniguez was police chief in 1974 when a police patrol arrested Firmenich, finding in his posession a pistol and other items stolen a few days before by guerrilla groups which had attacked an army post. Iniguez ordered Firmenich to be brought to his office and then released him.

The charges against Iniguez were brought for violating his duties as a public official. In 1956, General Iniguez was a member of a Peronist plot which failed to overthrow President Pedro Eugenio Aramburu (1955-58) and he was put in jail. In 1970, Firmenich--currently living abroad--was a member of a commando group which kidnaped and murdered Aramburu.

AIR FORCE COMMANDER SWEARS IN NEW APPOINTEES

PY261826 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1515 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jan (TELAM)--Newly appointed Air Force Commander in Chief Gen Omar Graffigna today swore in Brig Gen Roberto Temporini as the new air force chief of staff. The ceremony took place at 1200 at the Condor Building, headquarters of the air force, and was attended by all high-ranking officers of this branch of the armed forces. At 0800 General Graffigna swore in the new air operations commander, Brig Gen Jesus Orlando Capellini. Fifty minutes later he went to the headquarters of the 1st Maintenance Group, where he swore in the air regions commander, Brig Gen Hugo Nicolas di Risio. He then went to the 8th Air Brigade headquarteres at Jose C. Paz, where he presided over the ceremony swearing in the air defense commander, Brig Gen Antonio Diego Lopez. Finally, General Graffigna went to Quilmes regional workshops, where he swore in the new materel commander, Brig Gen Antonio Burgos.

BANZER WILL NOT RUN IN COMING ELECTIONS

PY271909 Paris AFP in Spanish 1720 GMT 27 Jan 79 PY

[By Eduardo Perez Iribarne]

[Text] La Paz, 27 Jan (AFP)--Former President Hugo Banzer will not be a candidate in the coming general elections on 1 July, one of his close coworkers confirmed here today to AFP. Banzer is presently in Buenos Aires after having been dismissed by President David Padilla from his post as ambassador to the neighboring country.

General Banzer will not run as presidential candidate in the next general elections since he prefers to take a long rest period in order to study thoroughly the situation of the nation, the spokesman said. He added, however, that this does not mean Banzer will withdraw from politics, because his influence as a representative of Bolivian nationalism cannot be questioned. The day will come when the whole Bolivian people will ask for the return to power of one of the most prominent presidents of our history, the spokesman said.

Political leaders and officers in retirement have organized public rallies in several cities in the last few days to express their support for the former president, who resigned on 21 July 1978 after a coup d'etat led by Gen Juan Pereda, his heir apparent and interior minister. According to his supporters, General Banzer's political influence in the country will grow in the coming years, "because the 7 years of his government were a time of great stability and progress in almost all fields," the spokesman told AFP.

According to his close supporters, Banzer "will remain abroad for a few months so his presence here is not interpreted as a search for electoral honors or taken advantage of by coup opportunists." The former president will continue resting in Argentina, "where he has many friends, particularly President Jorge Rafael Videla," they added.

Despite Banzer's absence, his partisans are organizing political contacts with various groups to gain electoral support for Banzer supporters in the next elections. They explained that informal meetings have already been held with leaders of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and the Historic National Revolutionary Movement [MNRH], Victor Paz Estenssoro's party. They added that the results are encouraging, although nothing has been defined yet.

MNRH leaders have stated, however, that they will not maintain any official contacts with representatives of the Banzer groups, who represent a period of military dictatorship in the country during the 1971-78 period. PDC leaders, in their turn, denied that talks held with leaders of the Banzer supporters have had any importance, asserting that they have not had any kind of official contact with that political sector. Local observers point out that Banzerism has become a new political force in Bolivia.

PADILLA CHARACTERIZES BREAK WITH CHILE AS 'TOTAL'

PY262107 Paris AFP in Spanish 1918 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 26 Jan (AFP)--Gen David Padilla Arancibia, president of the government military junta, stated today that the break in relations between Chile and Bolivia is total.

The president answered in this manner a proposal presented by a board of the Cochabamba community which demanded that the breaking of diplomatic relations between the two countries be supplemented with suspension of all Bolivian economic and commercial relations with Chile.

President Padilla stated that the breaking of relations with Chile involved all aspects, with the sole exception of the presence of a consular delegation in La Paz.

AMBASSADOR TO PERU REPORTS ON CHILEAN SPYING

PY270105 Paris AFP in Spanish 2238 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpts] La Paz, 26 Jan (AFP)--The Bolivian ambassador to Peru, Walter Montenegro, is here to report to the Bolivian Foreign Ministry on the details of the recent Chilean spy case discovered by Peruvian officials.

Montenegro reported that he has already met with Foreign Minister Raul Botelho Gonsalves and that he will continue with his report in the next few hours. After meeting with the foreign minister, Montenegro emphasized the good Peruvian attitude toward cooperation in solving the Bolivian landlocked situation.

Montenegro also emphasized the excellent diplomatic relations between Peru and Bolivia. In this regard he mentioned the works being carried out in the Puno-Desaguadero connection for railroad integration of the two countries. He also announced that soon a very important project now being negotiated will be signed.

INVESTIGATION ORDERED INTO CHILEAN SPYING

PY262301 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2240 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 26 Jan (TELAM)--It was reported here today that the Bolivian Government has ordered an extensive investigation into the existence of a large network of Chilean spies. Foreign Minister Raul Botelho confirmed that two Chilean citizens were asked to leave Bolivia after it was proved that they were involved in spying activities.

The armed forces, through its intelligence service, the Interior Ministry and the Foreign Ministry are in charge of carrying out the investigation.

A Foreign Ministry commission will leave for Santa Cruz, 900 km east of here, to verify the charges of spy activities. It is certain that Santa Cruz is the center of operations of Chilean intelligence in Bolivia. The official report added that information on these activities is being evaluated by armed forces intelligence.

Anibal Aguilar, former labor minister and former adviser to the United Nations, believes that General Pinochet's government ordered the implementation of the Alpaca plan in Bolivia and Peru, aimed at getting strategic information on the two countries. Aguilar said that a number of Chileans, difficult to determine, are involved in spy activities in Bolivia.

Further on Spies

PY271914 Paris AFP in Spanish 1643 GMT 27 Jan 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 27 Jan (AFP)--It was officially confirmed here today that Chilean spies have been acting with impunity in Bolivia for 5 years, but their activity has been on a very small scale. Gen Victor Castillo, joint chief of staff, told the local press that the military intelligence services have knowledge of Chilean espionage and that a full report on the subject will be published shortly.

One of the main objectives of Chilean spying in Bolivia was the Bolivian-Peruvian military meeting in Santa Cruz de la Siera last December.

On that occasion Bolivian counterespionage broke up an attempt to form a communications network at the Los Tajibos Hotel in Santa Cruz, where the Bolivian and Peruvian high commands were about to meet.

In the last few hours two Chilean citizens have been expelled by the government, accused of anti-Bolivian activities, but their names have not been made known. It was said that other citizens from the neighboring country may have to leave the country within the next few days for the same reason.

The entire Bolivian military high command has agreed in stating that the military intelligence services have been mobilized to put an end to the Chilean espionage network in Bolivia, said in news media reports to be in its first stage of activities. According to official reports, the espionage is concentrated in the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 1,000 km east of La Paz.

HIGH COSTS OF RAIN DAMAGE TO NATION TOLD

PY271447 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Jan 79 PY

[Recorded portions in quotation marks]

[Summary] The damage caused in the transport sector in general by the torrential rains during the week amounts to 48 million Bolivian pesos. This report was given to Radio Panamericana by the transport, communications and civil aviation minister. Minister Juan Munoz Revollo [as heard] gave the following report on the recent events which have disturbed the public:

"I believe it is necessary to report to the public on the consequences of the natural phenomena in the last few days. The whole population should have the duty of helping the victims. The latest torrential rains throughout the country have caused a number of disasters in the transport sector."

The minister gave details of the damage to be repaired in the transport sector in La Paz, Oruro and Cochabamba departments, including the rebuilding of some bridges. The railways were damaged only on the eastern line. Minister Munoz gave the following details: "Regarding the railway sector, the line to Santa Cruz has been damaged on a stretch of (?454) km. The approximate cost of repair amounts to 34.680 million Bolivian pesos. The damage has been caused by erosion and the (?filling) of drainage ditches."

The airports of the country have a suffered serious damage, mainly those of Cochabamba, Santa Cruz and Beni. The total cost of airport repairs amounts to 34.680 million Bolivian pesos. Minister Munoz said: "For the repair of roads we need 4.400 million, for the railways, 34.680 million, for the airports, 9.6876 million, totalling about 48.7487 million pesos." [all figures as heard] The minister explained that the Transport and Communications Ministry lacks funds for this kind of disaster and emergency measures will therefore have to be taken to deal with the situation.

BRIEFS

APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADORS--La Paz, 26 Jan (LATIN)--The Foreign Ministry confirmed today the appointment of the following new Bolivian ambassadors: Gustavo Medeiros Querejazu to Brazil; Rear Adm Santiago Maese Roca to Paraguay; Gen Antonio Rojas Montalvo to Spain; Juan Jose Vidaurre to the Vatican; Alvaro Careaga Zalles to Hungary; Luis Salinas Estenssoro to Venezuela; Rear Adm Moises Vasquez Sempertegui to Ecuador; Roberto Arce Alvarez to the United States. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1656 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY]

SECRET DOCUMENT STRESSES GOOD RELATIONS WITH U.S.

FY261354 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Jan 79 p 3 FY

[C.C. column: "The Future Government Must Improve Relations Between Brazil and the United States"]

[Text] The need to smooth out the sharp corners in our relationship with the United States without harming our interests or sovereignty is part of the chapter on foreign policy in the 51-page secret document which General Joao Baptista Figueiredo is sending to his ministers. No details are known regarding this chapter or any other in which the basic guidelines outlined by the future president in his speech last Friday are expanded and broken down. However, once diplomatic sources became aware that the new government is concerned about improving our relations with the North Americans, they estimated that the rank of brigadier general is bound to be reestablished for the Brzilian military attache in Washington and for the U.S. military attache in Brasilia before the end of the year. Currently, because of the termination of the military cooperation accords in 1977, we have a lieutenant colonel there and the Americans have an officer of the same rank here. Even though military and diplomatic circles are not thinking in terms of new military agreements, the idea is to reestablish the rank of brigadier general for this type of representative.

After Roberto Sayre arrived in Brazil to rep[illegible] Ambassador John Crimmins, he quietly went to work to replace the lieutenant colonels with generals. He had been given the green light by the Pentagon, the State Department and the White House and held meetings with Army Minister Gen Fernando Bethlem, who, although sympathetic toward the idea, decided to wait a while before formally submitting it for consideration by Planalto Palace. Now, as a result of a study carried out by the top advisers of the government, it has been concluded that this action could hold the clue toward the improvement of our relations with the United States.

Barring mistakes, it is believed that by the end of this year, especially appointed Brazilian and American generals will be stationed in the two capitals. However, the issue of military attaches is just a beginning in this new phase of mutual rapprochement. If the future foreign minister, Ramiro Guerreiro, does not feel ready at the very beginning to practically reimplement the mutual consultation accord arranged between Kissinger and Silveira in 1975, he could, however, appoint a special working group to make a complete study of our relations with the United States. There will be no backing up regarding the tariff barriers--that is, as long as the United States maintains obstacles against our exporting manufactured goods to that country, the same will be done here. In the same way, as long as the Americans continue requiring visas for Brazilian tourists and officials, we shall respond in kind according to the decision reached several months ago by Minister Azeredo da Silveira. However, this will not preclude efforts to find courses of action aimed at overcoming misunderstandings and deadlocks.

As for foreign policy, this has not been the only recommendation made by General Figueiredo to the new foreign minister. One of the main things is the maintenance of the "Silveira policy" regarding increased relations with the Third World, especially with Western Europe and the countries behind the Iron Curtain. It would seem that the fifth revolutionary government will do its best at the diplomatic and commercial levels through a broad dialog between Brazil and the rest of the world, with the exception, of course, of specific cases such as Cuba. The possibility of Brazil resuming relations with that country will depend on a change of its political attitude. That is, as long as it continues to be an exporter of subversion, nothing else will be done.

Future Foreign Minister Ramiro Guerreiro has already received the secret document of the new government and is now engaged in outlining more concrete suggestions which he will submit for consideration by the future president in February.

PRESS REPORTS IRAQI INTEREST IN MILITARY GOODS

PY271827 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1436 GMT 27 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 27 Jan (LATIN)--The Iraqi Army is interested in purchasing Brazilian-made troop transports and combat trucks. This information has appeared in local newspapers, but has been denied by official sources. Brasilia newspapers have reported that an Iraqi military mission headed by a General Amin was visiting Brasilia yesterday. The reports add that the mission held secret meetings with Brazilian military authorities.

The Iraqi Embassy in Brasilia and the Brazilian Foreign Ministry have denied that an Iraqi military mission has arrived and said, therefore, that they do not know of alleged negotiations for the sale of Brazilian war materiel to Iraq. Iraq is Brazil's main supplier of oil.

The newspapers note that General Amin, accompanied by other Iraqi Army generals, visited the transport and combat truck factory in Sao Paulo and the airplane factory, and showed interest in acquiring 2,000 transport and combat trucks. The press adds that the Iraqis held a meeting yesterday with Gen Andrada Serpa, Brazilian Armed Forces chief of staff, and with Gen Walter Pires, chief of the war materiel department and future war minister.

OPPOSITION WOULD NOT REJECT LIMITED PARDON

PY261426 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 25 Jan (TELAM-EFE)--Deputy Jose de Freitas Nobre, the new opposition leader in the Brazilian legislature, stated today that his party will continue to defend the cause of a general amnesty for the country, but that it is not in any position to reject the government proposal to grant a limited pardon in Brazil. In remarks which caused great surprise among official circles the head of the Brazilian Democratic Movement, the government opposition party, added that if Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo, future president of the nation, proposes this alternative to political amnesty in the country, the opposition can do nothing but accept it without posing any type of obstacle, even though it will not stop working for a general amnesty which could lead to reestablishment of a democratic regime.

CORRECTION TO NEW FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

In the item entitled "Future Foreign Minister Holds Press Conference," published on page D 3 of the 25 January Latin America DAILY REPORT, paragraph 4, line 1 should read: "The nuclear agreement with Argentina [as published] was another subject mentioned by the foreign ...."

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS

PY261446 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Recorded portions enclosed in quotation marks]

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos has stated that Chile and Peru should coexist, bearing the future in mind. He reasserted that the Chilean Government is very grateful to Ambassador Bulnes Sanfuentes for his brilliant mission in Lima. Cubillos said that Ambassador and Mrs Bulnes did a wonderful job in Lima by representing Chile during a long and difficult period and by conducting efficiently the rapprochement between Chile and Peru.

"You know the situation quite well. There is no need to give any further details about it except to reassert Chile's conciliatory spirit on this issue. Official Peruvian reports only request the withdrawal of our ambassador, but they do not give any specific reasons. As the declaration issued last Saturday night by the Peruvian Government states, this decision corresponds to the right which every sovereign country has according to the Vienna Convention. But through the Peruvian press, which has been covering this incident extensively, we see that everything is related to alleged espionage activities which the Peruvians themselves, including Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente, have acknowledged are common activities in all countries, and indeed not a day goes by without the press carrying reports of this nature."

Cubillos noted that for Chile's part these were completely spontaneous actions, and added that for unknown reasons, which to some extent could be related to Peru's domestic issues, the situation has been exaggerated. Cubillos, however, declined to comment on this because he said that Chile respects the principle of nonintervention.

"I said at the time, however, that I believed this situation could be overcome and I still do because I know of the genuine conciliatory and friendly spirit which the Chilean Government and its people have toward Peru. Furthermore, my personal contacts in Peru lead me to believe that Peruvians and their government have the same feeling toward us. Moreover, I believe that any temporary issue can be overcome when there is a conciliatory spirit on both sides. I am quite confident."

Regarding the investigation procedures being carried out on the persons allegedly involved in the espionage activities charged by Peru, the foreign minister said this investigation is being carried out by the proper authorities. He noted that President Pinochet has given explicit orders to avoid repetition of these acts. Cubillos said that the appointment of a new ambassador to Lima should be put off until another time, but that regardless of this it is a decision the president should make. He appealed in conclusion to all Chileans and Peruvians to coexist, bearing the future in mind, particularly in 1979, which is a meaningful year for the two countries.

"I believe no one can be so naive as to ignore the fact that in 1979, which is such a meaningful year for both of us since it is a year filled with symbolism and emotion, there may be outbursts and excesses among those people who still refuse to face reality. Despite this however, it is the intention of our government and of the Chilean people that 1979 should be like any other year and that we should not bear in mind the commemoration of a particular date, but should think of the future. I believe that both in Chile and Peru the majority of the people are guided by the same spirit, and this is why I am confident the issue will be solved. People (?do not look back)."

The foreign minister said that Latin Americans have the obligation of keeping the future in mind. He added: The future compels and conditions us to live in peace, to live united and integrated.

Foreign Minister Cubillos stated, moreover, that the episcopal conference at Puebla would not be the proper forum to discuss Bolivia's maritime claim. The minister reasserted that Chile has no pending problems with Bolivia.

"There has been no official request such as the one mentioned, but I am aware, however, that some members of the Bolivian church are planning to pose the issue at the Puebla meeting, and although I do not believe this is the proper place to discuss this kind of issue, each country has the right to do whatever it believes is proper. If the issue is discussed at this meeting I am confident that the representatives of the Chilean church, who are quite well informed on the issue, will know how to explain Chile's position, which is quite clear."

Cubillos said that there are treaties in force with Bolivia and consequently there is no room for argument. Furthermore, he said that there are no diplomatic relations between Chile and Bolivia because the latter unilaterally decided to break relations with Chile. Diplomatic sources have noted that since there is no pending conflict between the two countries, no mediation is possible.

Further Reportage

PY261847 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos has minimized charges made in La Paz, Bolivia regarding alleged espionage activity being carried out by Chileans. Despite the announcement issued by the Bolivian foreign minister, the rest of the Bolivian Government has remained silent.

Minister Cubillos further reported that he has recalled the Chilean ambassador to Buenos Aires to review all issues concerning the mediation on the southern border dispute. Ambassador Sergio Onofre Jarpa arrived in Santiago a few hours ago.

[Begin Cubillos recording] As I always do with all ambassadors, I have called ambassador Jarpa for consultations. Since the mediation on the dispute with Argentina has been officially accepted by the pope, I want to review everything concerning our relations with that country. I believe this will be a very useful routine meeting, [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Regarding the return to Chile of Argentine Ambassador Hugo Mario Miatello, Cubillos reasserted that he will return when his vacation is over. He noted that the Argentine ambassador's trip is completely normal.

Cubillos also briefly discussed Argentine President Videla's statement. Videla insisted that the negotiations encompass the entire southern region. [begin recording] Well, I believe this point is quite specific in the Montevideo agreement, so there is no need to discuss personal opinions. This issue is clearly defined in the agreement. [end recording] In his statement Videla also expressed his confidence that the pope's mediation will help find a formula [word indistinct].

Cubillos also discussed the Chilean situation with Peru and praised the work being carried out in Chile by Peruvian Ambassador Guillermo Arbulu. [begin recording] I hope he returns to Santiago soon, since he has fulfilled a wonderful mission in Chile. I have an excellent impression of him. He has won many friends in Chile and I hope to see him back. [end recording]

Ambassador Arbulu was called back by his government and left Chile last week due to the crisis at the Chilean mission in Lima. At any rate, the diplomat is on vacation, according to the official announcement issued by the [word indistinct].

CUBILLOS RIDICULES BOLIVIAN SPY CHARGES

PY262221 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1844 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 26 Jan (LATIN)--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos said here today that the reports from Bolivia about an alleged discovery of a Chilean spy incident in that country are not very original. According to press reports released here, Bolivian Foreign Minister Raul Botelho said that an undetermined number of Chileans were asked to leave that country after being caught trying to take confidential documents.

The Chilean foreign minister said that he did not have any official information on this matter and that he learned about the alleged spy case through the local press. He then said: "In reality, to me this report is amusing because we are used to Bolivia inventing this kind of story every so often. The only comment I can make on this matter, to put it mildly, is that the Bolivian argument is not very original."

ENVOY TO ARGENTINA RETURNS, MEETS WITH CUBILLOS

PY270118 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos has summoned Chilean Ambassador to Argentina Sergio Onofre Jarpa to give him a complete report on the Chilean position regarding the border conflict with Argentina.

The foreign minister received the diplomat in his office, indicating later that it is only a routine meeting in view of the pope's official decision to mediate in the conflict. He also said that he will study with Ambassador Jarpa the bilateral situation, indicating that this study will be positive and useful.

Cubillos said that he intends to give a complete report on all Chilean positions on the southern border conflict, so that the ambassador may return to Buenos Aires with full information on this conflict and other important subjects.

Asked about the opinions of Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla on the two-ocean theory, that the border conflict will be extended throughout the entire southern border area, Cubillos said that the Chilean positions have been clearly expressed in the Montevideo Act, so why should we be bound by one man's opinions? The subjects have been clearly defined and we have talked much about them.

At the meeting with the foreign minister, Ambassador Jarpa gave a detailed report on the situation in Argentina regarding incidents such as the expulsion of Chileans and other aspects of bilateral relations.

In addition to the foreign minister, present at the 1-hour meeting were Gen Luis Ramirez Pineda, chief of the national defense staff; Gen Odlanier Mena, director of the National Information Center; and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Col (Roberto Sosa).

EL MERCURIO COMMENTS ON PAPAL MEDIATION

PY261421 Paris AFP in Spanish 0252 GMT 26 Jan 79 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, 25 Jan (AFP)--The daily EL MERCURIO said today that Chile expects Pope John Paul II to recognize its positions on the dispute with Argentina over the Beagle Channel as standing for what is right and for peace. In its Friday issue, the influential daily said the pope's formal acceptance of his official appointment as mediator by the two governments sets the conflict on new terms.

Free from the tension which ended through the outstanding performance of the papal envoy, Cardinal Antonio Samore, the Holy See can examine the problem and evaluate the positions of the two countries in the light of justice and reason, EL MERCURIO added. The newspaper pointed out that the well-meaning mission of the pope will be to counsel the two countries in search of a solution to the conflict.

EL MERCURIO then said that the points for mediations, as proposed by the Chilean Foreign Ministry, will be chosen by the mediator and it will be very difficult for the Holy See to find any foothold whatsoever for Argentina's ambitions over the islands and, therfore, any basis for any valid controversy over a settled question.

ARGENTINE PATROL ILLEGALLY DETAINS SHEPHERDS

PY271327 Paris AFP in Spanish 0209 GMT 27 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Puerto Natales, Chile, 26 Jan (AFP)--It was reported here today that a mounted patrol of Argentine gendarmes carrying submachineguns entered Chilean territory and arrested five Chilean shepherds. The five Chilean shepherds were arrested and charged with being in Argentine territory illegally.

The shepherds were carrying out their normal chores at a ranch in Puerto Natales, a city located 3,000 km south of Santiago and only 300 km from the Beagle Channel, the crucial point in the border conflict between Chile and Argentina. It was reported here that at the time the shepherds were working 5,000 meters from the border marker and that they were arrested and taken to an Argentine gendarmerie post in the town of Cancha Carrera. They were questioned throughout the 24 hours they were held incommunicado and were later delivered to Chilean carabineros from Cerro Castillo.

Puerto Natales military authorities described the incident as an attack by the Argentine gendarmerie since it violated Chilean territory and since five Chilean shepherds were arbitrarily detained. It was learned here that the military chiefs from Puerto Natales and from the Rio Turbio Argentine gendarmerie will hold a meeting on Saturday to discuss the issue.

SPANISH KING JUAN CARLOS PLANS VISIT IN 1979

PY242018 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1803 GMT 24 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Valparaiso, Chile, 24 Jan (LATIN)--Spanish Ambassador to Chile Luis Arroyo Aznar stated here today that the king of Spain, Juan Carlos de Borbon, will make an official visit to Chile this year.

Arroyo Aznar, who is making a visit to Valparaiso, 140 km northwest of Santiago, said in a press conference that the date of the visit has not yet been set, indicating that several have been studied but that they must be established in accordance with the king's agenda. He also stated that the king is very interested in establishing closer contacts with Chile and that he also wants to tour the country's southern region, especially the city of Valdivia, 841 km from Santiago.

BRIEFS

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS, IMPORTS--Chilean agricultural exports during 1978 totaled $572 million, which means that these exports increased by 38 percent in relation to those of 1977. Furthermore, imports totaled $458 million, reflecting a 38.4-percent increase in comparison to the previous year. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY]

CONSERVATIVES RATIFY SUPPORT FOR TURBAY; APPRECIATION NOTED

Conservatives Pledge Cooperation

PA261637 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--The National Conservative Directorate, which is presided over by Raimundo Emiliani Roman, has ratified its support for the government in view of the success it has achieved in all aspects of national life--particularly in the fight against crime and the defense of democracy.

When one observes these brilliant results, one has to acknowledge that the presidency of the republic, with all its power, constitutes the best of our institutions, Emiliani Roman said as he presented President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala with the Alvarist sector's New Year's salute. We do not begrudge this acknowledgment, not even in connection with those presidents who relentlessly persecuted us, because we acknowledge that of all their passions, the loftiest and greatest was the desire to serve the republic, Emiliani Roman added.

We cooperate with your government for patriotic reasons. We feel such cooperation is necessary, and for this reason we do not request any bureaucratic compensations, leaving in your very dignified hands the defense of the national character, Senator Raimundo Emiliani Roman added.

President Turbay Voices Appreciation

PA261636 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala said he is fortunate to have the Conservative Party's cooperation during his administration. He affirmed that we all identify with the common purpose of serving the country's interests.

In analyzing Colombia's situation, particularly the most recent incidents arising from clandestine operations, I feel that, had it not been for the government's solid standing in the popular conscience and the support of the two large political collectivities, the trauma elicited by the agents of subversion could have been seriously disturbing, the chief of state said in responding to the salute presented him yesterday on the occasion of the new year by Raimundo Emiliani Roman, president of the National Conservative Directorate.

I have worked with the Conservative Party on a number of occasions, and this is why I can testify to the loyalty with which it has cooperated and the fighting spirit of its distinguished men, who have accompanied the chief of state in the great battle to bring about peace, strengthen freedoms, promote progress and bring about social justice, the president said.

HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUES OFFICIAL VISIT

Cooperation Agreement Signed

PA262011 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] In Bogota, Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas today emphasized the bonds of friendship which have united Colombia and Honduras throughout their long history of diplomatic relations.

He added that now more than ever the two nations advance united by inter-American ideals.

At noon today, Foreign Minister Uribe Vargas, together with his Honduran colleague Roberto Palma Galvez, signed a bilateral agreement by which both nations promise to promote joint activities in economic, cultural and social integration spheres. During the same ceremony, which was held at the Foreign Ministry, Honduran Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez emphasized that never before had relations between his country and Colombia registered such pleasurable unity and understanding of the problems they face jointly. The Honduran foreign minister's visit ends tomorrow when he completes his good will mission.

Neutrality Regarding Nicaragua Reaffirmed

PA202015 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] The Honduran Government denied today that it is intervening with its troops in favor of Anastasio Somoza's regime in Nicaragua and pointed out that reports to that effect are false. Honduran Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez told this station that his government has proclaimed neutrality, as both nations have always maintained very (?close) relations:

[Begin recording] [Palma Galvez] I definitely feel that in the future, relations will be more flexible and effective for the convenience of both nations.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, it was said recently in an international dispatch by the Sandinists of Nicaragua that Central American countries are sending troops to help the Somoza regime. Is that true?

[Answer] That is totally false. I want to say that we have proclaimed our neutrality and it is being adhered to effectively. It happens that my country, and Nicaragua, the Honduran people and the Nicaraguans, have always maintained very (?close) relations. We have our common origin in the Central American Federation, with common borders [words indistinct] which with time have become closer. But we reiterate our government's neutrality. We are doing as much as we can do to help 10,000 Nicaraguans who have sought refuge in Honduras. We are determined to maintain that neutrality. You can be sure that we will continue to maintain it just as we will continue to respect Nicaragua's right to solve its own problems [words indistinct]. [end recording]

The foreign minister signed a declaration with Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas in which they reiterate the principles of the juridical equality of both states.

ENERGY MINISTER ANNOUNCES PLANS TO REFINANCE ECOPETROL

PA261646 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Mines and Energy Minister Alberto Vasquez Restrepo has announced that the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL) will be refinanced for $250 million (about 10 billion pesos).

The credit, to be obtained from several international organizations, is part of the foreign debt quota of $1.6 billion approved by the National Congress for the next 4 years. According to Vasquez Restrepo, the refinancing of this state-owned enterprise takes priority or paralysis will ensue with consequences that would have repercussions throughout the rest of the national economy.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES EXPORT PROMOTION MEASURES

PA231926 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--Through the Export Promotion Fund (PROEXPO) the government today announced substantial increases this year in resources used to finance minor exports.

The credit granted for use as working capital, including the obligatory financing of intermediate financiers, will be increased from 21.15 billion pesos in 1978 to 26 billion pesos this year. In the same manner, the direct financing of medium-range projects, which in 1978 amounted to 1.257 billion, will amount to nearly 2.5 billion pesos this year.

The creation of a special committee in which the private sector will participate to achieve a greater simplification of export procedures has also been announced.

AUTHORITIES ISSUE ARREST WARRANTS FOR TUPAMAROS

PA260440 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Gustavo Alvarez, a military court judge, has issued arrest warrants for three alleged Tupamaros. The action was taken in connection with the investigations being carried out against the M-19 terrorist organization for the theft of 5,000 weapons belonging to the army and other illegal activities which have been attributed to this organization.

The arrest warrants have been issued for Juan Victor Vivanco, Sergio Descarte Benitez and Ana Elba Gonzalez Tausa, all three of Uruguayan nationality who have admitted that they were former members of the Tupamaros in Uruguay.

The Military Institutes Brigage also reported that three other Uruguayans--[name indistinct], Mireya (Carcova) and Raul Leone Bravo--have been detained and could be arraigned within the next few hours.

Sergio Descarte told the authorities that he took part in the kidnaping of former Ambassador Miguel de German Ribot and named the place where they held him captive.

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY FINES SIX RADIO STATIONS

PA270248 Paris AFP in Spanish 2247 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 26 Jan (AFP)--It was officially reported here today that the Communications Ministry has fined six Colombian radio stations for not complying with the regulations established by the ministry. The stations which were fined broadcast from the cities of Tunja and Medellin and from the Atlantic coast.

The Communications Ministry recently fined other radio stations for violating a security statute which prohibits the broadcasting of certain reports, such as those related to public order.

BRIEFS

SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT--Bogota--Magistrate Jose Maria Ezguerra Samper has been elected president of the Supreme Court of Justice to replace Luis Sarmiento Buitrago. Magistrate Jose Velasco Guerrero has been elected vice president. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA]

DURAN BALLEN REAFFIRMS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PA271220 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Interview with Ecuadorean presidential candidate Sixto Duran Ballen; place and date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] We have heard persistent rumors about a possible withdrawal of your presidential candidacy. What is your specific comment on the matter?

[Answer] I have been asked this question several times during the campaign, and my reply has been at all times that I will not withdraw from the electoral race. At no time have I thought about it; at no time have I held an attitude in this respect. Let us recall that on various occasions during the campaign even some parties have requested and suggested that I submit my withdrawal to give way to a reorganization of the return plan. However, I have a commitment toward the parties which nominated me to this candidacy on 20 January of last year. I also have a great moral responsibility toward some 350,000 Ecuadoreans who cast their ballots for me on 16 July. I cannot disregard this expression of the people. I cannot turn my back on this sizeable group of Ecuadoreans who believed that they saw in me an instrument to solve the nation's problems.

I could not betray my ideals and those who generously gave me their votes in July; I could not betray my own conscience. Thus, we shall continue, and we shall repeat it as many times as possible in order to refute this rumor, which is nothing but a rumor probably spread by those who want me to be an instrument to interrupt the process. Perhaps it is because those who already believe themselves to be victors can increase their feeling of triumph by saying that Duran Ballen is a coward who turned and ran. No, I shall not withdraw, and I shall remain in the struggle.

[Question] This means that your permanence in this process is irreversible?

[Answer] Definitely. I shall continue as I have done at all times. I have maintained my dignity during the entire process, and this same attitude will be maintained by me until the end.

VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WILL NOT QUIT RACE

PA272115 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Jose Icaza Roldos, Constitutionalist National Front candidate for the vice presidency of the republic, has publicly charged that an attempt is being made to force him to resign his candidacy, and that means barred by political gentlemanliness and even by the citizens' civic ethics are being used. He said, however, that neither he nor his mate on the front's slate will bow to such detestable intentions.

In his statements to the press, Icaza Roldos said that in view of the maneuvers of certain economic pressure groups, he feels dutybound to reaffirm the need that the plan for the juridical restructuring of the state reach its unavoidable conclusion. The military dictatorship, which has pledged the honor of the armed forces and in whose name it governs, is obliged to stop these maneuvers, he said.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY DENIES HAVING CUBAN PLANES

PA270440 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0348 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 26 Jan (LATIN)--The government officially denied tonight that it has any planes on loan from Cuba, as reported in a local magazine. "This report is completely false," a dispatch by the government-owned news agency ESI-PERU says. The dispatch notes that Peru has no planes on loan from Cuba "or any other country."

The dispatch refers to an article published in CARETAS magazine which says that Peru has "at least 67 units" in a supersonic plane wing and that "the number could be even greater if the 12 MiG-21 planes loaned by Cuba were sold to us in the event of a conflict."

"This report is completely false. Peru has no planes on loan from Cuba or any other country. If a press organ reports the opposite, it is damaging Peru's image, creating distrust abroad, paving the way for more speculations and presenting Peru as a violator of international agreements."

The ESI-PERU dispatch was issued after the government warned that it will suspend the issues of magazines that jeopardize national sovereignty and Peru's international prestige, thus making attempts [as received] against the country's security.

"What is the purpose of lies such as these?" the dispatch asks. It replies: "Each Peruvian must think about it and give his own answer."

PRESIDENT MORALES REAFFIRMS ELECTION CALENDAR

PA281230 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0248 GMT 28 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 27 Jan (EFE)--Peruvian President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez has affirmed here that if parliament completes the new Peruvian constitution before July, general elections could be held in December. In a statement published by the newspaper EXPRESO today, Morales Bermudez said that the military government will fulfill its political program in which it promised to hold elections in 1980 and to transfer power to a civilian government.

President Morales Bermudez said that the elections will depend on the Constituent Assembly's completion of the constitution before the month of July. At the same time, the Peruvian president affirmed that the government has respected and will continue to respect the parliament elected in June 1978 in the first elections held in the country since 1963.

Morales Bermudez also affirmed in a statement to the armed forces that two basic objectives have been established: the transfer of power and Peru's economic recovery. He said that in the next few months the inflation rate, which is now 73 percent, will decrease to 40 percent.

COMMUNIST PLOT TO TAKE OVER MONTEVIDEO REVEALED

PY271337 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0140 GMT 27 Jan 79 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Jan, (LATIN)--The Uruguayan Army general command today issued an exhaustive report on activities carried out in previous years by the now outlawed Communist Party and other leftist sectors. The report gives special emphasis to the details of a plan to "take over" Montevideo.

The plan uncovered makes up one of the 17 chapters of a book entitled "Testimony of a Nation Attacked," which was issued to the press today and which throughout its 500 pages also details infiltration activity carried out by communists in sectors close to the armed forces, the church, labor unions, cultural institutions, the press and others.

One section of the book, written by a group of army officers, describes the actions of 18 military officers who in the past 8 years have been indicted for their involvement with Marxist organizations. The list of names of these military officers is headed by former General Liber Seregni, presidential candidate in the 1971 elections for the "Wide Front" [Frente Amplio] coalition, which has leftist tendencies. Seregni is still under arrest in Montevideo. He was indicted by the military courts.

The book reports that the "takeover" plan, also known as "the 1811 plan," was to be made effective in case the "Wide Front" won the elections, but it was not allowed to come to power. According to the book, the operation was related to the infiltration of military sectors "since within the Bolshevik pattern it is clear that no subversive or revolutionary movement can succeed without the aid of at least a part of the armed forces." The plan provided for the takeover of the Carrasco International Airport, in addition to other strategic places, and for dividing Montevideo into different areas, thereby assuring effectiveness of the plan.

The book also charges that a journalist and union leader acted simultaneously for some time as informers of both the Communist Party and the CIA. The book also contains abundant material excerpted from the testimony of numerous detainees, and it concludes with an appendix which includes documents taken from Marxist publications and others confiscated from leftist organizations.

It was announced that the book will soon be translated into English in the United States by the "Morgan Foundation."

BRIEFS

1978 INFLATION FIGURES--The cost of living in Uruguay increased 46.01 percent in 1978, according to the office of statistics and census. The increase is lower than the 57.28-percent increase posted in 1977 but is higher than the official estimate of 40 percent. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1227 GMT 13 Jan 79 PY]

EUROBANK MEETING--The sixth assembly of Eurobank with the participation of bank delegates who are members of the international economic group began in Punta del Este today. This is the first meeting held in Latin America and includes the main banks of Western Europe and Latin America. [Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1500 GMT 19 Jan 79 PY]

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER USSR ACTIONS AGAINST FORMER ENVOY

PA282230 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 25 Jan 79 p 1 PA

[Text] Aristides Calvani has charged that the Soviet Government is retaining the personal belongings of former Venezuelan Ambassador to the USSR Regulo Burelli Rivas.

Former Ambassador Burelli Rivas was recalled at the request of the Soviet Government following a problem involving the case of the Moshara brothers.

Aristides Calvani angrily denounced this fact before the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry and demanded its intervention so that the Soviet Union will release Burelli Rivas' belongings.

Social Christian leader Calvani said that this is the first time that Venezuela has been faced with this type of problem and that the incident could affect relations between the Soviet Government and the next Venezuelan administration.

LARGE LOSSES REPORTED IN CENTRAL BANK OPERATIONS

PA252022 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 21 Jan 79 p 1 PA

[Text] The Central Bank of Venezuela lost at least 106 million bolivares in two international operations, an official source confirmed yesterday.

The same source in an exclusive to EL UNIVERSAL added that two high-level officials of the bank were replaced.

The measure affected the chiefs of the Exchange and International Investments departments.

Cesar Arreguada was hurriedly appointed to the first post, replacing Ramon Carrasco.

One of the operations registering a loss was in Japanese yen; the other was in Canadian dollars. In the former, 83 million bolivares were lost, and 23 million in the latter.

Yesterday a Central Bank spokesman confirmed reports of the loss of 106 million bolivares. The degree of responsibility of the two high-level bank officials was not revealed.

Asked about their situation, the answer was: They are in other posts until the proper investigations are completed.

Asked if they had any personal responsibility in the case, the answer was: That is being studied. For the time being the measure of replacing them in their posts was taken--both Carrasco in Exchange and Obregon in the Investment Department.

AD, COPEI INCREASE MUTUAL CRITICISM OVER CORRUPTION

PA262205 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2315 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 25 Jan (LATIN)--Venezuela's two largest parties, Democratic Action [AD] and the Social Christian Party [COPEI] today stepped up their mutual criticism after President-elect Luis Herrera Campins warned during his visits to the military garrisons that he will not tolerate corruption.

Herrera, who will assume office on 12 March, reiterated his electoral promise to fight administrative corruption as a priority of a government that will seek to perfect democracy. He made the statement at the military garrisons.

Jaime Lusinchi, AD parliamentary faction leader, publicly protested this, stating that administrative corruption and reforms to the state are not topics that should be discussed at a garrison.

The controversy became bitter today when Secretary of the Presidency Carmelo Lauria affirmed that former President Rafael Caldera ordered the destruction of documents that could prove corruption cases in his Social Christian administration, which lasted from 1969 to 1974.

COPEI leaders told the government and AD that administrative corruption is not a topic of deliberation. Consequently, bringing it up at the military garrisons does not make the armed forces a deliberating body. According to COPEI Organization Secretary Jose Rachadell, corruption is not a topic of debate. You are either for it or against it. Its convenience or inconvenience for the country cannot be discussed.

Administrative corruption and corruption in large private sectors, the poor reputation of certain police bodies and the ineffectiveness of justice were topics of discussion during the campaign which preceded the December elections in which COPEI defeated AD.

Caldera Denies Destroying Documents

PA261549 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Former President Rafael Caldera has said in answer to statements by Presidency Minister Carmelo Lauria that no documents involving corruption in his administration were ever burned.

Caldera held a press conference in his residence in Los (?Teques) accompanied by top leaders of the Social Christian Party and former members of his administration. As will be remembered, Lauria charged that Caldera ordered all the files burned which contained proof that members of his administration had been involved in corruption. Caldera said that the present administration is trying to cover its faults by attacking the previous administration.

MEP NATIONAL COUNCIL DECISIONS ON PARTY STRATEGY REPORTED

PA272342 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 22 Jan 79 p 1-13 PA

[Text] Jesus Angel Paz Galarraga, secretary general of the People's Electoral Movement [MEP], has handed journalists the following conclusions reached by the party's National Council meeting which ended yesterday:

1. The MEP reaffirms its basic strategy of working for national liberation and a socialist democracy.

2. In the pursuit of those higher objectives, a policy will be implemented which will lead to the qualitative and quantitative growth and development of the party with the goal of attaining power.

3. The MEP will remain in the opposition and, consequently, will not enter into pacts, agreements or alliances with the government. The form and character of that opposition will depend on the performance of the next government.

4. The MEP will work with determination to unite the left, one element of this being related to the municipal elections in June. For this purpose, the council declares itself in favor of a total or partial alliance of the left for the coming municipal elections and for actions of a similar nature in other aspects of national life.

5. If a total or partial alliance of the left is not attained, the council will again be called into session to make the appropriate decisions.

6. The MEP will adopt measures and take initiatives which will help it to obtain participation in the leadership of both houses of the legislature and its auxiliary bodies, at the national as well as the regional level.

7. To assume technical or administrative jobs which do not imply political responsibilities, every member of the MEP must request authorization from the party leadership in every case.

8. The MEP will hold a National Council meeting in March to continue to study the causes for the loss in voting strength and to evaluate the political line of the MEP.

9. The MEP will convoke an extraordinary national assembly for the second semester of this year to initiate a process of thoroughly reorganizing the party at every level.

10. The National Council will appoint a commission to study the country's social, political and economic situation.

11. The National Council will appoint a commission to make a definitive evaluation of the 1978 electoral process.

12. The MEP will promote a popular and juridical-institutional mobilization to obtain the immediate release of Salom Mesa Espinoza as soon as he is proclaimed deputy for the Federal District, in conformity with the parliamentary immunity as established in Article 143 of the national constitution.

AIR FORCE ORDERED TO SHOOT DOWN DRUG TRAFFICKERS' PLANES

PA281905 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1702 GMT 28 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 28 Jan (EFE)--Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez today ordered the air force to shoot down any unmarked plane flying over national territory which does not obey orders to identify itself. Carlos Andres Perez announced the decision during a meeting with local newsmen in the city of San Cristobal, 700 km from Caracas. The Venezuelan president said that the purpose of this decision is to end the contraband and drug traffic from other countries which have turned Venezuela into an international bridge for drug traffickers. The president said: "I have given orders to the Venezuelan Air Force to shoot down any airplane which is unmarked, does not identify itself or does not agree to land at a Venezuelan airport."

He also announced that Venezuelan authorities, in coordination with the Colombian Government, have established an operation of special vigilance against international drug traffickers. Perez indicated that Venezuela has also begun operations with the United States to eliminate drug trafficking or at least decrease it. "We are confronting something that we have to fight with all our energy," he said, adding that "we are facing one of the most condemnable and abominable crimes which threatens not only the individual, but all of society."

He also said that the crew of a U.S. plane which recently landed in Falcon State, western Venezuela, was carrying weapons to be exchanged for drugs in Colombia.

POPE JOHN PAUL II ARRIVES IN MEXICO CITY

Greeted by Lopez-Portillo

PA270444 Paris AFP in Spanish 2015 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Jan (AFP)--Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo expressed to Pope John Paul II today his desire that the pope's visit to Mexico will be for the good of humanity.

The Mexican chief of state, who greeted the pontiff with a handshake as he descended from the plane, said: Sir, welcome to Mexico. May your mission of peace and harmony and the efforts of justice that you have undertaken be successful in the coming days. I leave you in the hands of the hierarchy and the faithful of your church and may all be for the good of mankind.

In his brief reply, the pope said: That is my mission and my ministry. I am very pleased to be in Mexico.

Urges World Peace, Security

PA271902 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0127 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Jan (EFE)--Pope John Paul II appealed here today for a "right to peace and security" in the world. Receiving the diplomatic corps accredited to Mexico, the pope, in noting that society must guarantee the right to a decent living, cautioned that another fundamental need must not be disregarded. This need, the Catholic leader stated, could be called "the right to peace and security."

The pope made this statement in urging the leaders of all the nations to eliminate distrust and replace it with mutual trust, protective concern and fraternal cooperation. The pope said that an environment created on the basis of this type of international relations will make possible the finding of previously unsuspected fields of understanding.

The religious leader also referred to the "growing number" of refugees in the world and urged all the nations--especially the Latin Americans--to be understanding in solving the problems of the refugees from Southwest [as received] Asia. In noting that the Asian refugees are facing a "tragic situation," the pope said that those refugees face not only a very dangerous route but also the possibility of having their request for asylum either rejected or conditioned to long waiting periods. The finding of a solution to this tragic problem is the responsibility of all nations," the pope stated. [quotation marks as received]

He said he would like all countries to support international organizations, "especially the countries on a continent such as Latin America, which has always honored its long-standing tradition of hospitality, in order to openly confront this humanitarian problem."

In appealing for recognition for the right of peace and security, the pope said that human societies will be judged according to the contributions they make to the development of man and to the principles of respect for basic rights. The pope said: To guarantee peace to all people on our planet means undertaking an active, continuous search for all the means that will serve to promote fraternal relations between nations and between regions.

Referring specifically to this region, the pope said that today's peace represents "an example and an invitation to the entire international community."

Meets With Lopez-Portillo

PA271937 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpt] President Jose Lopez-Portillo and Pope John Paul II held a conversation at the presidential residency today and discussed peace [words indistinct] the president's family. They exchanged gifts, with President Lopez-Portillo giving the pope a chain with the symbol of Quetzalcoatl and some of the books written by him. Mrs Lopez-Portillo translated her husband's remarks into Italian. The pope gave the president a personally autographed photograph and to Mrs Lopez-Portillo a papal medal. After a tour of Los Pinos residence, the pope left at 1910.

CUBANS CIRCULATE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM PAPER IN PUEBLA

PA280354 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jan 79 PA

[Text] In Puebla, Mexico, which will be the site of the third Latin American episcopal conference tomorrow, Cuban Catholics circulated a document in which they reaffirm that complete religious freedom exists in Cuba. In a statement entitled "The Presence of Cuba in Puebla," the Basic Cuban Group of Reflection [Grupo Basico Cubano de Reflexion] explained that Cuban Catholics coexist, work, suffer and rejoice together with their communist comrades, side by side and day after day.

They added that Cuban Catholics, with responsible sincerity, invite those who have not had the opportunity or option similar to ours to accept this testimony, which is based on the authority conferred upon us by the privilege of having the religious experience in an authentic socialist context. Finally, the document denounces the difficulties imposed upon the Cuban people by the U.S. Government's economic blockade and aggressions.

For his part, Arnoldo Martinez Verdugo, secretary general of the Mexican Communist Party, said that the bishops meeting in Puebla must face the grave problems of misery, unemployment, illiteracy and lack of political rights which exist in the Latin American countries, with the sole exception of Cuba.

Another report said that Pope John Paul II delivered a homily in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Mexico City with which he practically inaugurated the third Latin American episcopal conference, which will be officially inaugurated tomorrow, Sunday.

SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA261453 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Swedish Foreign Minister Hans Blix arrived in this capital today to establish programs for technological cooperation in the field of energy. The foreign minister, who heads an economic delegation, will meet with his Mexican counterpart to discuss matters related to worldwide disarmament and the cooperation of the large powers with developing countries.

Interviewed at the international airport, Hans Blix expressed his government's willingness to cooperate with Mexico in the development of the oil industry.

Sweden's technology is different from that of the large powers, he said, and it is therefore more accessible economically. In addition, the foreign minister recognized the leadership role played by Mexico in the struggle for world disarmament.

GROUP OF 12 REPRESENTATIVES MEET WITH ROYO

PA271206 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] There can be no political solution in Nicaragua without participation of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, Dr Sergio Ramirez, a member of the Group of 12 visiting Panama, said here.

The 7 representatives of the Group of 12 held a luncheon-meeting with President of the Republic Dr Aristides Royo and members of the Panamanian Government and private businessmen.

During the meeting the members of the Group of 12 explained in detail the purpose of their mission and noted that the only alternative in the current situation in Nicaragua is armed struggle and the establishment of a democratic government of popular representation. President Royo said that all those present at the meeting were linked by their opposition to a government like the Somozist dictatorship.

Further Details

PA271922 Paris AFP in Spanish 1012 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Panama City, 27 Jan (AFP)--Nicaraguan opposition leaders denied to Panamanian President Aristides Royo here that the ouster of the present Nicaraguan regime in Nicaragua entails the formation of a communist government.

The statement was made by 7 members of the Group of 12 during a luncheon given by President Royo which was attended by top government officials, industrialists and even a Panamanian priest, Fernando Guardia, who has been in Nicaragua.

The anti-Somozists said that after the fall of the Somoza regime in Nicaragua only a pluralist democracy, in which there will be no ideological and social discrimination, is possible.

Ernesto Castillo, one of the opposition leaders, said that a socialist experiment in Nicaragua had no chance of succeeding because of historical, social, economic and geopolitical reasons.

Somoza's adversaries added that the presence of Marxists in the Sandinist Front does not mean that the "12" are also communists. They all advocated the elimination of the Nicaraguan Army, which they called Somoza's personal guard.

President Royo declared himself to be an anti-Somozist and said that in Panama there are no supporters of the corrupt dynasty which has governed Nicaragua for the past 45 years.

GROUP OF 12 MEETS PRD LEADERS ON 25 JANUARY

PA260436 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] The so-called Group of 12, which arrived in Panama to obtain solidarity with the anti-Somozist struggle in Nicaragua, held a meeting-luncheon today with leaders of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], who offered to participate in a popular anti-Somozist front.

The meeting was opened by adviser to the presidency Eligio Salas, who explained the Panamanian Government's interest in contributing to peace in the Central American region and in preventing the massacre of the Nicaraguan people.

Sergio Ramirez, a member of the Group of 12, emphasized the importance of having the cause of the people's struggle in Nicaragua supported by courageous governments like those of Venezuela and Panama.

PRD Secretary General Nicolas Gonzalez Revilla proclaimed the movement's intention of contributing to the struggle against underdevelopment and genocide in Nicaragua and of strengthening Latin American solidarity.

Ascanio Villalaz, deputy secretary general of the PRD, explained that the PRD intends to propose the creation of a committee in support of the Nicaraguan people in which various Panamanian tendencies and political movements can participate.

The PRD leaders said that they consider the Nicaraguan liberation struggle as their own and agreed on supporting the proposal of the "12" that the cause of the Nicaraguan people be presented at all international forums for as long as the struggle against Somoza continues in Nicaragua.

The Group of 12 will attend a political meeting at the Panama University auditorium organized by the popular, anti-imperialist organizations.

The Nicaraguan delegation intends to stay in Panama until next Monday, after it has met with President Aristides Royo and other political organizations.

SANDINIST GAZETTE APPEARS ON COUNTRY'S NEWSSTANDS

PA271737 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 26 Jan 79 p 20 PA

[Text] The Propaganda Committee of the Prolonged People's War faction of the Sandinist National Liberation Front has sent us a copy of the first issue of the "SANDINIST GAZETTE," official organ of the Nicaraguan guerrilla organization, which is published in this capital.

The Sandinists state in the magazine that they will only reach an understanding with the enemies of the Nicaraguan people through their gun barrels.

They add that the groundwork is now being laid in Nicaragua to permit the launching of a true "guerrilla offensive" in the near future. We are now harassing and wearing out the enemy to launch a wide-ranging guerrilla offensive later, they say.

The GAZETTE also reviews the status of Nicaragua's media, which is the victim of serious repression by Anastasio Somoza's government.

The Sandinists assert that they will continue their armed struggle as long as the minimum program proposed by the United People's Movement (MPU) is not implemented in Nicaragua. The MPU has made an appeal for unity of all anti-Somoza and anti-investors [as published] forces through the National Patriotic Front.

The SANDINIST GAZETTE will be available on all of the country's newsstands. It may be purchased at the Los Arcos Bookstore-Coffeeshop.

ROYO, ADOLFO AHUMADA SPEAK AT RALLY IN VERAGUAS

PA270424 [Editorial Report PA] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 2230 GMT on 26 January began live coverage of President Aristides Royo's attendance at a rally at the San Juan de Dios Plaza in Santiago, Veraguas, where several persons representing various sectors of the province, President Royo and Government and Justice Minister Adolfo Ahumada delivered addresses.

The first speaker, Prof Luis Batista, representing "Popular Power" and the Veraguas community, began his address at 2235 GMT. He referred to various problems affecting the sector and submitted a number of recommendations to the consideration of President Royo and his retinue. Batista ended his 7-minute address at 2242 GMT.

At 2243 GMT Lidia de Entebi, speaking for the labor sector of the province, praised the revolutionary process and, noting that for the first time in the history of the republic the popular sectors have had the opportunity to actively participate in the public administration, harshly criticized the traditional political parties and their outdated leaders and called for a massive popular endorsement of the Revolutionary Democratic Party (PRD). She ended her 8-minute address at 2251 GMT.

At 2252 GMT Government and Justice Minister Adolfo Ahumada, speaking in the name of the PRD's Organizing Committee, expressed satisfaction over the massive turnout at the rally and said that the vacancies left by the officers of the National Guard, who on 11 October 1978--headed by the maximum leader of the Panamanian revolutionary process, Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera--returned to their quarters, must be filled by civilians who, led by President Aristides Royo and Vice President Ricardo de la Espriella, must organize the most powerful political party that ever existed in the country. He explained that the PRD will be a militant and disciplined organization which will make sure that the achievements made by the revolutionary process will be irreversible.

Urging all supporters of the PRD to promptly register, he said: "We must remain alert because there are elements moving about which want to take advantage of the political situation, but without registering or participating in accordance with the established rules of the game. They want to promote chaos. They do not want to follow the rules of the game established by the revolution. They want to take over power or, if necessary, comfortably wait for an alien force to overthrow the government and turn power over to them. Let them know, however, that we are quite aware of this. Let them know that power is not given graciously; that power must be won through the vote. Let them register their parties and we will count every one of their votes. We must also register starting in March."

Referring to the visit of the Nicaraguan Group of 12, Minister Ahumada said: "I know that the members of the Group of 12, Nicaraguans fighting for the freedom of their country, are somewhere in this plaza. They are guests of the PRD and the national government. They are here because they already knew of the fighting tradition of this Province of Veraguas since they have read about the political history of Latin America; they are here because they knew that a fighting people such as the Panamanian people cannot turn their backs on those who march with their chests out to confront one of the most voracious dictatorships which has ever existed in Latin America's history." Ahumada ends his 12-minute address at 2304 GMT by stating that the Panamanian revolution will never reverse itself.

At 2305 GMT President Royo began to review the traditional fighting spirit of Veraguas Province and said that it was one of the sons of this province--Gen Omar Torrijos--who led the National Guard in 1968 to bring about all of the present changes in the country.

Royo added that Torrijos, accompanied by a group of honest officers, engaged in the task of constituting the most democratic government this country has ever had. Royo then said: "For the first time, Panama became a nonalined nation and, contrary to the dictators of Latin American governments, Panama received the support of the entire world. Thus, we set a date for the North Americans." "When leaders of Bocas del Toro Province asked us what would we do if the U.S. Congress failed to approve the implementation laws in the House of Representatives, we answered, and we know you are also answering through us, that with or without implementation laws we will enter the Canal Zone on 1 October of this year. [applause] All this progress, however, must be preserved and improved so that the Panamanian process will not become stagnant, so that it may continue along progressive paths, so that private enterprise may converse with the workers, so that the student may converse with the worker and the peasant, so that we may live in a country of peace and respect all ideas. I believe all ideas, except fascism, must be respected."

President Royo concluded his 15-minute address at 2320 GMT by exhorting students, workers, peasants, intellectuals, professional men and women and all active forces of the country to register in the PRD in order to insure that the revolutionary process will be continued through the joint effort of the government and the people.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR GDR

PA272127 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Victor Corrales Nunez, president of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, has left for the GDR in response to an official invitation from the government of that country.

Corrales Nunez will participate in an international conference where he will be given a place of honor at the main table because of his position as president of the Panamanian legislators. Corrales Nunez has also been chosen as one of the official speakers at one of the sessions of that important international event. During his absence, his post at the national assembly will be occupied by Dr Blas Celis, who is the assembly's vice president for Colon Province. Dr Celis represents the northern area in our assembly.

GOVERNMENT MINISTER INVITES VENEZUELA TO MANEUVERS

PA272216 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 26 Jan 79 p 1 PA

[Letter dated 24 January from Government and Justice Minister Adolfo Ahumada to Venezuelan Defense Minister Div Gen Fernando Paredes Bello]

[Text] The Panamanian National Guard has expressed interest in holding joint, batallion-level maneuvers with the Venezuelan Armed Forces with the participation of land, sea and air components.

After meeting all our country's legal requirements for this, we are pleased to invite, through your worthy person, the members of the Joint General Staff of this brother country whom you appoint to come to make the initial coordination, the search for appropriate areas and the necessary plans for this maneuver.

Hoping for your interest in and acceptance of our request, I am respectfully yours,

Adolfo Ahumada, minister

COSTA RICA

CARAZO COMMENTS ON NICARAGUAN SITUATION, RELATED ISSUES

Discusses Death of Girl, OAS Meeting

PA271210 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Radio Reloj reporter William Cespedes report on interview with Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo in Tejar, Cartago, on 26 January 1979]

[Text] I asked the president about the position his government will adopt regarding the death of Yolanda Guido, who was killed by a National Guard bullet. Let us listen to what he had to say about this and the OAS consultative meeting to be held in February:

[Begin recording] [Carazo] At present, America has regimes which resort to violence and murder. We are a victim of these horrors today. We are a peaceful but proud country. The answer to this is not in declaring war. It must be a continuous demand for the protection of the Costa Rican right to live in peace and without an army. We will demand the implementation of the provisions set forth in the Inter-American Recriprocal Assistance Treaty which apply in these cases. We will carry out every effort with the democratic regimes of the continent so that something will be done regarding this case, which undoubtedly constitutes a limitation to the institutional life in Latin America. Personally, we will give our sympathy and support to the girl's family and tell the Costa Rican people that we are sure that with our insistence, the sanctions to condemn the Somoza regime will be applied.

[Question] Don Rodrigo, the OAS consultative meeting will be convoked next month. Will Costa Rica present a special, specific proposal so that the strictest norms of [words indistinct]?

[Answer] Of course. We are in contact with the governments of the continent so that all the possibilities to implement sanctions will be analyzed.

[Question] Will Costa Rica be in a position to demand the expulsion of Nicaragua from the OAS?

[Answer] Costa Rica is in a position to demand all the sanctions which apply to this serious problem. [end recording]

Interviewed on Nicaragua's Problems

PA271734 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2132 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 26 Jan (LATIN)--According to Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo, the Somoza regime's continuing control of the government is the fundamental cause of the Nicaraguan crisis and the grave difficulties affecting Central America. Carazo made the statements in an interview granted to Ramon Villeda Bermudes, director of the newspaper LA PRENSA.

I have insisted on many occasions that Nicaragua's problems are the result of 45 years of Somoza rule, Carazo told the journalist. He added that for Costa Ricans, it is incomprehensible how a regime can be in power not only that long but any length of time exceeding the 4 years established by our constitution. Therefore, from the Costa Rican viewpoint, duration constitutes the principle cause of Central America's difficulties. There is not the slightest doubt that Nicaragua's problems are acquiring a dimension which all of us feel directly.

Recalling the reaction of Anastasio Somoza's government, Carazo added that in the economic sphere Costa Rica has experienced problems in shipping its merchandise across Nicaragua to countries in the north; we have been forced to take the matter up before the authorities of the Central American Common Market. In one way or another the Nicaraguan problem affects Costa Rica every day and we could say that it affects Central America as well. I believe that the same thing is happening in Honduras, which has refugees and political and security problems. This is another factor that has not been discussed. In order to maintain our neutrality, we have to incur large police expenses which we never had before.

After referring to a border incident in which Costa Rican soldiers were killed, Carazo said: Costa Rica has earned the right to live in peace and without an army. This has been converted into a goal for which we struggle at all international meetings. We have received support for our belief in every regional or global institution, in the OAS as well as the United Nations, and this pleases us very much. We believe that we can also depend on these international organizations for our defense, without resorting to establishing an army.

Queried on the accusations made by President Anastasio Somoza, according to which Costa Rica allows insurgent Nicaraguan forces to use his country as a refuge, Carazo replied: We have always said that these groups (Sandinist guerrillas) do not operate here with the consent of the Costa Rican government, but we have also said that if they are present they are few in number and they have been all hidden whenever it has been assumed that they are present. On two occasions we have conducted what have been called cleanup operations to guarantee our neutrality. They have been carried out with the greatest efficiency. Proof of this is evident in the fact that we have asked for the intervention of the OAS.

When I was asked whether it was with the government's consent that a group could arm itself in Costa Rica and then head for Nicaragua, I answered that question with another question: Did the Nicaraguan Government give consent--not in the mountains or in hiding, but first on the highways, then in the streets of Managua and then in the center of the city, at the National Palace--for an armed group to take over the country's principal nerve center? Perhaps this explains the facts better. We have never looked the other way. Although we want the Nicaraguan problem to be solved, we comply with international committments responsibly, Carazo said.

GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH CARAZO, CALDERON

PA261857 Paris AFP in Spanish 0354 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 25 Jan (AFP)--Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdes, who is here on an official visit, has said that Guatemala has not brought--nor does it plan to bring--an end to its campaign to recover the territory of Belize, which is, and will continue to be, Central American territory despite a foreign power's pretentions.

Castillo met privately today with Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo and Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon. Guatemala has not come to mediate in the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan problem, but should the two governments ask us to do so, we will do it gladly, the foreign minister commented. He added that guerrilla activities have decreased in Guatemala thanks to the present government's actions and the country is enjoying a climate of tranquillity and progress.

Castillo Valdes remarked: Although it is true that Central America is currently bankrupt, it is also true that efforts aimed at reunifying the area are currently being made and Guatemala is willing to cooperate fully in this effort. The foreign minister returned to Guatemala tomorrow

Presidential Visits Planned

PA270244 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1933 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio and Guatemalan President Romeo Lucas Garcia will meet soon, it was announced here today at the end of the visit of Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo. Castillo arrived here on Wednesday night to meet with Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon and President Rodrigo Carazo Odio.

It was officially reported that Castillo is visiting the Central American countries to convey New Year's greetings to the rulers of the Isthmus. However, the Guatemalan foreign minister discussed two important Central American problems in San Jose: The economic integration crisis and Nicaragua's political and military conflict.

It has been reported that President Carazo will first travel to Guatemala and that Lucas Garcia will subsequently come to San Jose. The exact dates of the visits were not disclosed. The two meetings will be to discuss "the area's economic and political problems." Castillo Valdez left early this morning for El Salvador.

EL SALVADOR

GUARD ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON SAN ANTONIO ABAD OPERATION

PA282211 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1955 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran National Guard today reiterated that it plans to continue its policy of complying with and enforcing the law. It stated this is a communique on the security operation it carried out 8 days ago in San Antonio Abad, a district of San Salvador, in which Priest Octavio Ruiz Luna and four youths were killed.

On making the announcement, the Salvadoran security body issued a call to parents to guide their children and warn them about the consequences that their identification with subversive groups may bring.

In the 20 January operation at the parish center of the San Antonio Abad church, 20 minors, 2 nuns and 20 youths and adults were arrested on charges of receiving guerrilla training. The San Salvador archbishopric denied that such training was taking place there, indicating that a spiritual retreat had begun in the perish center.

In today's official report, the Salvadoran National Guard stated that information from special sources established that the 16 January occupation of the Salvadoran Red Cross and OAS offices and the Mexican Embassy was directed from some "apparently Christian centers which the clandestine groups call lecture centers and in which the candidates for subversive militancy first graduate as lecturers." The communique added that "this is stated in publications of those seditious groups." It added that the headquarters of "El Despertar" cooperative in San Antonio Abad was fully identified as one of those lecture centers. Many known subversives entered and left the headquarters, primarily at night.

It added that the People's Unified Popular Action Front conceded that one of its comrades was there and that he had been lecturing about the publications of the illegal group which, the National Guard said, is proof that such lecture centers are nothing more than centers designed to recruit youths into the terrorist movement. It said that "El Despertar" cooperative had been under observation by the security corps for many days and that sufficient evidence had been gathered to extend the investigation.

"According to the legal provisions which support such an investigation, the security service tried to enter the building, but was met with armed resistance," it said. The National Guard communique said that the agents were forced to return the fire, stating that no one but the leaders of the subversive group could be held responsible for the fate of children and youths who are involved by adults in their harangues and seditious activities. The authorities insist that the building contained extremist propaganda and that two (?nuns) were not wearing their customary habits but were dressed in sports clothes. Finally, it said that people should not be surprised by the participation of several priests in subversive movements in Latin America and recalled that a few days ago in Colombia three priests who were involved in the robbery of an arsenal were captured. The robbery was attributed to the terrorist M-19 movement.

The communique recalled that in El Salvador, in a communique attributed to the Armed Forces of National Resistance, this subversive group identified Priest Ernesto Barrera Motto as one of its most distinguished activists. Here we recall that it was the Popular Liberation Forces [FPL] which claimed that Barrera Motto was one of its activists. The chancery placed the FPL's affirmation in doubt.

The courts to which the minors, youths and adults were remanded after being arrested released everyone due to lack of evidence. The 8-day-old security operation further deepened the rift between the Salvadoran Catholic Church and the government and gave Archbishop of San Salvador Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez material for new attacks against the regime and for the publication of an open-letter from the archbishopric demanding justice in the case and the establishment of responsibilities for the action in which, said the chancery, "Priest Ruiz Luna and his four companions were murdered."

Persons Arrested in Raid Released

PA270432 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2249 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Twenty persons arrested on 20 January at the parish house of the San Antonio Abad neighborhood near San Salvador were released today. They had been arrested during a military operation in which Priest Octavio Ruiz and four youths were killed. The archbishopric has said that the youths were attending a religious class.

An official bulletin issued on the date of the action indicated that guerrilla training was taking place in the parish house and that authorities arrested 2 nuns, 20 minors and 20 youths [as received] and adults. They have now been released since the Second Penal Court ruled that there was a lack of evidence.

The minors testified in the minor's court that they went to the parish house to listen to anti-drug lectures and to participate in activities to avoid vagrancy.

The incident has left five homes in mourning, no one in jail and a worsening of the already poor relations between the Salvadoran Government and the Catholic Church.

The families of the victims--Priest Ortiz Luna, Angel Morales, Jorge Alberto Gomez, Roberto Antonio Orellana and David Caballero--were making efforts today to recover the belongings of the victims.

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA SPEECH NOTICEABLY LACKING COMMENT ON INTERNAL UNREST

PA272000 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1922 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 27 Jan (LATIN)--President Anastasio Somoza, who is under strong national and international pressure to relinquish power, gave a speech today over a nationwide radio network in which he surprisingly did not refer to the governments of the United States, Venezuela, Panama or Costa Rica, which in recent speeches he had described as trying to destabilize his government.

Somoza inaugurated the building of the National Ramirez Goyena Institute, which has been in operation for over a year. Although everyone expected him to make political announcements on the pressure being exerted on him by the U.S. Government and the Sandinist National Liberation Front, he alluded to the situation only briefly. "There are forces," he said, "which are trying to gain control over free people like the Nicaraguans, which are trying to take away our right to decide our own destiny, and even to take away our right to be Nicaraguans."

There was noticeable military security around the building where Somoza made the speech in northwest Managua.

OAS OBSERVERS COMMISSION RELEASES FIRST REPORT

PA281952 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1825 GMT 28 Jan 79 PA

[By Eduardo Romero]

[Text] Managua, 28 Jan (ACAN-EFE) The civilian observers commission stationed by the OAS Standing Committee along the uneasy Costa Rica-Nicaragua border has rendered its first report after a week's stay in that area. The report contains five specific complaints made by the Costa Rican Government and six by the Nicaraguan Government.

The incidents reported to the inter-American observers by the southern neighboring country include the confinement on 22 January of Nicaraguan soldiers Placido Vallejos and Edmundo Vega in the Los Chiles area, an incursion by Nicaraguan military planes that strafed the Las Brisas area on Costa Rican soil on 23 January and the killing of young Yolanda Guido Obando by a Nicaraguan National Guardsman in the Costa Rican area of Penas Blancas. These reports were presented to the commission by Costa Rica's deputy public security minister. This country's liaison officer working with the observers added to the list the undocumented and suspicious capture in Penas Blancas of Nicaraguan Segundo Cruz Dinarte on 24 January and the abandonment by Costa Rican families of their property in Los Chiles on the same day because of Nicaraguan military threats to destroy them.

The cases presented by Nicaragua to the inter-American commission include the kidnaping in the Cardenas area of Luis Felipe Martinez and his two children, who were taken to the Verdun farm on Costa Rican territory. The three were able to escape and reported the presence of 25 guerrillas at the farm. Other kidnapings by Sandinist guerrillas coming from Costa Rican territory, according to Nicaraguan officials, include the justices of the peace from Quijada, Caldendario Lopez and Zapotillo Justo Narvaez, and the latter's son on 15 January.

A few days earlier, insurgents coming from the same place burned part of Buena Vista, Zamalia and Sardinas farms located in the Colon area along the border. Nicaragua also reported the constant harassment of the Nicaraguan Army garrison at Penas Blancas from the El Valle farm on the other side of the border. It added the theft of more than 700 cattle from farms in Penas Blancas and Orosi. The latter is owned by retired Gen Francisco Rodriguez Somoza.

The Nicaraguan Government also informed the OAS commission of the existence of guerrilla training camps in several private estates on Costa Rican territory.

The commission's first report says that information on the two countries' complaints has been forwarded to the OAS Standing Committee and that a more detailed report will be sent later. The observers have split up into two groups stationed in Liberia, Costa Rica, and in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, where they are receiving the assistance promised by each government.

INVESTIGATION BEGUN INTO DEATH OF COSTA RICAN GIRL

PA272142 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1718 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 27 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan National Guardsman who shot and mortally wounded Yolanda Guido, a young Costa Rican girl, early this week faces a military investigation board. Gen Gonzalo Evertz, chief of the southern command, ordered the establishment of a board which is to determine if he was manifestly guilty of firing on the Costa Rican girl. The soldier's name was not released.

Military spokesman Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar said that the Nicaraguan National Guard wants justice to be done in this specific case and that if the soldier is found guilty, he will suffer the full consequences of the law.

NATIONWIDE VIOLENCE PERSISTS; HUNGER STRIKE IN 11TH DAY

PA261731 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1639 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[By Eduardo Romero]

[Text] Managua, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--A National Guard officer and three youths reported to have been members of a guerrilla cell are the latest casualties in the dramatic situation being experienced by Nicaragua.

Lt Adolfo Boza Paniagua, with 23 years of service in the Army Communications Corps, attached to the National Radio and Television Directorate, director of the vocational institute and a radio station operating under the name "11 July," was shot and killed last night by two bullets from a .38-caliber revolver. He was killed by two young men who came to the institute asking to be enrolled. When they confronted the officer, they fired upon him.

According to the Managua police, the attackers were accompanied by another young man and a young lady and used a taxi stolen shortly before from former Nicaraguan baseball star Alejandro Canales. After the city patrols were alerted, one of them found the car in southeastern Managua. When the patrol was about to stop, the occupants threw contact bombs. The military returned fire, killing the three unidentified young men and slightly wounding the young lady, whose name was not released.

Violence continued also in the cities of Leon in the west and Matagalpa in the north. Two young men armed with rifles held up the Banco de America in Leon and made off with 100,000 cordobas ($14,285), and three other young men armed with pistols held up the "Munguia" bakery in the same city "recovering the people's money." The amount stolen was not specified.

There was fear during the night in the same city,which again heard the explosions of bombs and shooting until from an army tank in the "Zaragoza," "San Felipe" and "Laborio" districts. [sentence as received] The local Red Cross did not report any dead or wounded as a result of these skirmishes.

In Matagalpa, sporadic bomb blasts were heard and it was reported that "Santa Rita" hacienda was held up by a six-man guerrilla column which made off with arms of various calibers.

In the southern town of Jinotepe, three powerful bombs exploded around 1800 (0000 GMT), frightening the residents, who took refuge in their homes, giving the city an abandoned appearance only 1 hour later.

In the meantime, in Masaya, 30 km east of Managua, student, community, teaching and hospital groups who had taken over the Red Cross offices and declared themselves on a 24-hour hunger strike today left the building. Despite the redoubled National Guard patrols which this action had necessitated, there were no incidents during the night.

On the other hand, the 30 hospital workers who are in their 11th day of a hunger strike in Managua have begun to show signs of extreme weakness. Physicians fear for the lives of several.

Labor Minister Justo Garcia Aguilar, acting president of the National Assistance and Social Welfare Board (JNAPS), will meet today with a delegation of labor leaders and members of the Federation of Health Workers (FETSALUD). They will inform the minister of the need to reinstate the 2,800 hospital workers who were fired last year in connection with a nationwide strike in order to prevent hunger from turning into a tragedy and a cause of greater popular unrest.

Further on Leon Incidents

PA272312 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1621 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[By Eduardo Romero]

[Excerpts] Managua, 27 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The city of Leon, located 92 km west of Managua, became the center of another wave of political violence yesterday afternoon shortly after the funeral of Mario Moreno, a youngster. Following Moreno's funeral, bomb explosions, raids and shootouts increased as the night wore on. Moreno was killed on Thursday night in a clash between alleged Sandinist guerrillas and National Guardsmen.

Meanwhile, the bodies of three Sandinist youths were unofficially identified. They were killed the night before last near "El Paraisito" suburb in this city when military patrols found them inside a stolen taxi. Their names are: Enrique Martin Flores Guevara, Bayardo Guervara and Bayardo Rivas. Libertad Vidaurre Casco, a young woman who was with them, is hospitalized at Managua's military hospital.

GPP FACTION REPORTS DESTRUCTION OF SOMOZA-OWNED MINE

PA251230 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0123 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 24 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--In a communique given to ACAN-EFE in San Jose, the Prolonged People's War [GPP] faction of the Sandinist National Liberation Front has reported the destruction of a gypsum mine in northern Nicaragua owned by President Anastasio Somoza. The guerrilla organization indicated that one of its columns was in charge of the "military operation" on 10 January in the gypsum mine of Santa Rose del Penon in Esteli Department. It destroyed trucks, mechanical shovels, a tractor, 39 mechanical cranes, a powder magazine, a coffee warehouse and the gypsum production plant. It also indicated that 2 rifles and 5,000 explosives were "recovered." The Sandinists reported that the end of the attack a vanguard column clashed with a Nicaraguan National Guard patrol which sustained two deaths and two wounded.

The GPP faction said that due to this action the Nicaraguan Army launched a reprisal operation which has resulted in the death of 85 persons. It added that the National Guard uses all types of weapons in its repressive action, including light tanks in the area of La Laguna, where there is a greater concentration of rural people. It also said that the Nicaraguan Government reports that peasants who have been killed are Sandinists.

DEPUTIES APPROVE LABOR LAW, FAVORABLE REACTION NOTED

PA270152 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2355 GMT 26 Jan 79 PA

[Text] In its latest session, the Nicaraguan Chamber of Deputies approved the law on freedom of labor association, a law which has been described as one of the great advances in Latin American labor legislation. With this law, the Nicaraguan workers will have absolute freedom to form labor unions, to make labor demands [words indistinct] ultimate aspiration of the Nicaraguan workers. When no union exists, when there is disagreement on the part of the workers of a company or factory, the workers [words indistinct] abuses by the employers. Thus, the formation of unions, which means the unification of the workers for the protection of their labor rights, has generally been opposed by certain reactionary businessmen and employers who are against the program for the imporvement of the workers. Furthermore, the Liberal governments of Anastasio Somoza Garcia and Anastasio Somoza Debayle have always concerned themselves with giving the working class the necessary instruments to support their demands in accordance with the law. The labor freedom law approved by the Chamber of Deputies contains a series of articles which provide a 100-percent guarantee for labor organization and mobilization of the workers' and employers' [as heard] unions.

Workers Pleased With Labor Law

PA270153 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0030 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

[Text] The organized democratic labor movement of Nicaragua has been very pleased since yesterday over the Chamber of Deputies' approval of the law on labor freedom. The law was sent to the legislature by President Somoza to fulfill a promise he made almost 1 year ago, in February 1978. On that occasion Somoza said that labor freedom would be approved without the need for the Labor Ministry to regulate the establishment of unions. The approval of the law constitutes a solid government reply to the demands of the country's labor leaders. This is a great step forward and will undoubtedly have positive repercussions in the development of the Nicaraguan labor movement, said Roberto Gonzalez, one of the pioneers of the labor movement in Nicaragua and a participant in the struggle for the creation of the labor code.

MALMIERCA ARRIVES IN POLAND FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

FL261533 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli today began an official visit to the People's Republic of Poland. At the Warsaw railroad station he was received by Poland's foreign Minister Emil Wojtaszek and other officials.

The Cuban foreign minister, who arrived from the GDR after a 3-day visit, laid a floral wreath at the tomb to the unknown soldier, located in the center of Warsaw. Minutes after the ceremony in honor of those who fell fighting against Nazism during World War Two, the Cuban and Polish delegations opened talks on relations between the two countries and other matters of common interest.

The Cuban delegation headed by Malmierca is also composed of Cuban Ambassador to Poland Raul Fornell; Sidroc Ramos, director of the Foreign Ministry's Socialist Countries Department and other officials.

Received by Gierek

FL271754 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Warsaw--Polish maximum leader Edward Gierek has received Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who is paying an official visit to Poland. The first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party and the Cuban minister discussed matters concerning cooperation between the two countries and fundamental issues of international policy. It was noted at the meeting that the nonalined countries movement plays an important role in favor of the cause of consolidation of world peace and cooperation.

The Cuban foreign minister yesterday met with State Council Chairman Henryk Jablonski and Premier Piotr Jaroszewicz. Malmierca last night attended a dinner given in his honor by Polish Foreign Minister Emil Wojtaszek. At the dinner, Malmierca emphasized that Cuba and Poland hold common positions on the principal international issues. Referring to the sixth summit conference of the nonalined countries to be held in Cuba in September, the Cuban minister said it will strengthen the nonalined movement's action and will help to strengthen its unity.

For his part, Wojtaszek noted the common Polish and Cuban positions regarding the consolidation of progressive forces in the world and in the struggle for a lasting peace. He said Cuba carries the flag of socialism very high and enjoys great prestige in the international arena.

TORRAS HEADS DELEGATION TO DISARMAMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Condemns Neutron Bomb Production

FL261409 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Before the UN Disarmament Commission, Cuba has condemned the U.S. decision to produce components for the neutron bomb. Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Pelegrin Torras stated that the North American intentions constitute a challenge to the world condemnation of that weapon of mass destruction and an obstacle in the conversations on disarmament.

Torras added that the disarmament priorities demand actions aimed at impeding a nuclear conflict of unpredictable consequences.

The Cuban representative called for the signing of a treaty proscribing the development and production of other types of weapons of mass destruction. After referring to the clear position of the Soviet Union on disarmament problems, Torras stated that there is a need for dismantling military bases abroad.

Urges Foreign Base Dismantling

FL271428 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1422 GMT 27 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Pelegrin Torras has asked for the dismantling of foreign bases in other countries, specifically the one which the United States maintains in Cuba. Torras was participating in a general discussion at the disarmament commission that is meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

The chief of the Cuban delegation hailed the position of the Soviet Union which invariably supports general and complete disarmament. Pelegrin Torras asserted that the criminal intention of the United States to produce the neutron bomb, despite the protest of the entire world, threatens the future of mankind and poses serious obstacles to disarmament negotiations. During the general discussion at the disarmament committee meeting in Geneva, the Cuban delegate emphasized the great interest of the nonalined and developing countries in the adoption and implementation of concrete agreements on disarmament.

CUBA-CEMA COOPERATION STRESSED AT MOSCOW MEETING

FL271319 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The resolutions of the 20th meeting of the CEMA Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation confirm Cuban cooperation with other countries of the socialist community in various fields of science and technology.

Referring to expanded relations with Cuba, Herbert Weiz, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, said that scores of ministries and departments of both countries are cooperating directly, and hundreds of Cuban specialists study in the GDR.

For his part, Antonin Mrazek, Czechoslovak deputy minister of technological and investment development, stressed that cooperation with Cuba covers various sectors of the national economy, particularly cooperation in machinery manufacturing, energy and geology.

The status of the draft of a general cooperation agreement of member countries for the purpose of accelerating the development of science and technology in Cuba was examined at the 20th meeting of the CEMA Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation which ended in Moscow yesterday.

Zoilo Marinello, president of the Cuban State Committee for Science and Technology, expressed his deepest recognition and gratitude to CEMA member countries for the big help they are giving our country.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH FINLAND

FL261945 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1909 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] This morning at the State Committee for Economic Cooperation [CECE], located in Miramar, Havana City, a ceremony was held at which an economic, scientific and technical cooperation protocol was signed between Cuba and Finland.

Signing the document for the Cuban side was Raul Taladrid, CECE director of developed nonsocialist countries, and for the Finnish side Pauli Opas, assistant director of that European country's Foreign Ministry. Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister-president of the CECE, attended the signing ceremony along with Jussi Montonen, Finnish ambassador to Cuba, and Lazaro Cabezas, Cuban charge d'affaires in Helsinki.

The protocol covers the agreements of the fourth meeting of the mixed commission for economic, industrial and scientific cooperation between the two countries.

CUBAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP MONTH ENDS IN USSR

FL261241 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The Cuban-Soviet friendship month observed in the USSR in honor of the 20th anniversary of the Cuban Revolution's triumph concluded yesterday with a ceremony at the (Komurarka) Sovkhoz, located near Moscow. The event was chaired by Cuban Ambassador to the USSR Severo Aguirre and cosmonaut Vladimir Shatalov, president of the Soviet-Cuban Friendship Association.

COMMENTARY VIEWS DEATH OF GUATEMALA'S FUENTES MOHR

PA280452 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The murder of Alberto Fuentes Mohr, prominent Guatemalan economist and politician, on Thursday is new evidence of the criminal nature of the bloodthirsty regime headed by Romeo Lucas Garcia. Fuentes Mohr--an UNCTAD official, former Guatemalan foreign minister and Authentic Revolutionary Party [Partido Revolucionario Autentico--PRA] deputy--was shot to death on one of the streets of the capital of that Central American country.

After holding the positions of foreign minister and finance minister during the administration of President Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro from 1966 to 1970, Fuentes Mohr was kidnaped by members of the rebel armed forces. His contact with the guerrilla movement under those circumstances allowed him to develop a new concept of what Guatemala's reality was like. When he was released, he started calling himself a leftist democrat. After that, he became active in the struggle for democratic liberties in Guatemala. For that reason he was jailed and then deported during the tyrannical regime of Gen Carlos Arana Osorio, also known as the jackal of Zacapa.

The political evolution of Alberto Fuentes Mohr is reflected in the events of his last few years. As an UNCTAD official, he tirelessly struggled to obtain economic cooperation for the Caribbean countries. After visiting Cuba several times in his capacity as a UN official, he expressed his affection and respect for the Cuban revolution. He was elected deputy in the March elections in Guatemala and was working for the creation of the Socialist Democratic Party, linked with international socialism.

The murder of Alberto Fuentes Mohr confirms that the government of Romeo Lucas Garcia is trying to eliminate all those who struggle for democratic rights in Guatemala, even if they are not guerrillas or communists.

The prominent political leader was of bourgeois descent, although he had a great populist spirit and an unbreakable faith in his country's future.

He is one more victim of the criminal twosome made up of, on the one hand, Romeo Lucas Garcia and his government and, on the other hand, Mario Sandoval Alarcon, the most renowned leader of Guatemala's farm produce-exporting bourgeoisie, and the fascist National Liberation Movement.

What can Guatemala's opposition political forces--whose silence has been an accomplice each time the regime has killed a guerrilla, a communist or a revolutionary--say about this crime now?

With killings such as this, the crime syndicate tries to eliminate the ever-growing struggle of the Guatemalan people against the oppression of fascism and to scare the democratic and revolutionary forces which struggle against the fascist dictatorship headed by Anastasio Somoza and Carlos Humberto Romero in the neighboring countries of Nicaragua and El Salvador, respectively.

The crimes committed by Romeo Lucas Garcia in Guatemala are similar to those committed on a daily basis by Somoza in Nicaragua, Romero in El Salvador, Pinochet in Chile and Duvalier in Haiti. It is an international fascism which has as a common denominator the most reactionary imperialist circles and a policy of exterminating the people. [sentence as heard]

But these tyrants should not forget that reactionary violence only paves the way for revolutionary violence, and that the subsequent struggle of the people against their oppressors always results in the people's victory, despite repression and the hypocritical interventionist maneuvers concocted by the oppressors themselves and supported by the [word indistinct] politicians.

Alberto Fuentes Mohr, like many other Guatemalan patriots who were killed, is a source of inspiration to continue the struggle until final victory is achieved. When that moment arrives in Guatemala, the people of that country will be able to pay him their best homage.

11 FORMER PRISONERS LEAVE FOR UNITED STATES

PA290246 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Jan 79 PA

[Text] At noon today 11 [as heard] former Cuban inmates who served sentences in our country for crimes against the security of the state left for the United States. The group, which was accompanied by 14 of their relatives, left from the Jose Marti International Airport in Havana for Fort Lauderdale aboard a DC-3 airplane of the Air Florida airline. The inmates and their relatives were accompanied on this trip by Jorge Roblejo (Lorie), a member of the Committee of the 75, which is composed of representatives of the Cuban community abroad who have taken part in the dialog sponsored by the Cuban Government.

Some of the former inmates are: Doctors Lino Fernandez Martinez and (Enris Kao), and Enrique (?Casuzo). They told Radio Havana that they are pleased with the dialog taking place between representatives of the Cuban community and the government of our country.

The travellers thanked the Cuban authorities for the treatment they received during the time they were imprisoned for having committed counterrevolutionary crimes, as well as during the period of approximately 2 years prior to their departure for the United States. The three said that the United States should speed up the process--which they said was slow--to make possible the departure of former inmates interested in being reunited with their relatives in the United States.

The travellers were seen off at the airport by other members of the Committee of the 75, including Cuban Catholic priest Andres Reyes.

FIDEL ACCOMPANIES ANGOLAN PRESIDENT NETO ON TOUR

Isle of Youth Toured

FL251846 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Angolan President Agostinho Neto, who is visiting our country, has arrived on the Isle of Youth accompanied by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Neto and Fidel were received at the Nueva Gerona airport by the PCC Municipal Bureau members headed by Second Secretary Felix Mojena. The president of the MPLA-Labor Party and the first secretary of our party travelled to the Isle of Youth with the delegation headed by Dr Agostinho Neto and with Cuban leaders.

In this special municipality they will tour the rural schools at which African youths and children are studying. The Angolan delegation headed by Neto includes Defense Minister Iko Carreira; Alfonso Van Dunen, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Department of Foreign Relations; Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge; and Minister of Foreign Trade Roberto de Almeida.

Cienfuegos Visited

FL271712 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Agostinho Neto, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, arrived in the City of Cienfuegos at 1015 today, accompanied by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee. A group of Pioneers approached the helicopter in which the visitors arrived and presented bouquets of flowers and scarves to Neto, Fidel and their entourage. Thousands of Cienfuegos residents gathered near the runway emotionally greeted the leader of the Angolan revolution and carried placards, Angolan and Cuban flags and portraits of President Neto.

The African leader is making a private and friendly visit to our country in the company of an Angolan Government and party delegation.

CASAS REGUEIRO MEETS WITH SOVIET MILITARY DELEGATION

FL271329 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Div Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and first vice minister-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] General Staff, yesterday met with Adm A. Rassokho, chief of the Main Directorate of Navigation and Oceanography of the USSR Defense Ministry.

The other members of the Soviet delegation headed by Admiral Rassokho as well as by Navy Capt Jorge Fernandez Cuervo, president of the Cuban Institute of Hydrography, participated in the talks, which were conducted in a friendly atmosphere.

The delegation of the Soviet Main Directorate of Navigation and Oceanography, which is visiting us at the invitation of the FAR Ministry, laid a floral wreath at the mausoleum to the Soviet internationalist soldier and visited the museum of the revolution and the Granma memorial.

RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH FINNISH MINISTER, ECLA OFFICIAL

FL271340 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with two prominent officials who are in our capital--Eero Rantala, minister of commerce and industry of the Republic of Finland, and Enrique Iglesias, executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA].

Enrique Iglesias is attending the first Caribbean countries planning experts meeting. The Finnish minister heads his country's delegation to the fourth meeting of the Cuban-Finnish mixed commission for economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation.

Hours before meeting with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Eero Rantala for Finland and Raul Taladrid for Cuba signed the final document of the fourth meeting of the mixed commission. Maritime transportation, exchange of experts, establishment of new cooperation tasks in other sectors of the economy and new methods of cooperation and financing for industrial projects were among the agreements reached at the commission meeting.

FIDEL CASTRO PRESIDES OVER MILITARY REVIEW

PA281934 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has presided over the military review held at the Gen Maximo Gomez Revolutionary Armed Forces Academy in Havana in tribute to the combatants and collaborators of the Jose Marti Column No 2 of the rebel army. This group was led by Fidel Castro during the insurrectional struggle.

During the ceremony, Gen Abelardo Colume Ibarra, vice minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, said that the history of the Jose Marti Column is the history of the rebel army because it was the school of the great guerrilla chiefs and the embryo of the detachments that extended the liberation war throughout the country. He said that Column No 1 was born in the Granma and was always led by Fidel Castro.

Subsequently, several military units filed past the reviewing stand in representation of the various sections of the army. Squadrons of fighter-bombers of the Revolutionary Air Force also flew over the area.

Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the Cuban Communist Party and first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and other party, state and government leaders were also present at the ceremony.

ROCA CHAIRS CEREMONY HONORING VICENTINA ANTUNA

FL261215 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] Blas Roca, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and president of the People's Government National Assembly, has chaired the ceremony held in this capital in honor of Dr Vicentina Antuna on the occasion of her 70th birthday. The opening speech was made by Elena Gil, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of the Peoples, who referred to Antuna's lifework as a member of the World Peace Council for more than 25 years.

For his part, Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon, who made the keynote speech, referred to the country's situation 30 years ago when Vicentuna Antuna decided to establish the Cuban Committee for Peace and at a time when North American imperialism had emerged stronger from World War Two.

1978 AGRICULTURAL WORK EXAMINED IN HAVANA MEETING

FL261341 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] The review of the 1978 work plan fulfillment and the discussion and adoption of the Agriculture Ministry Soviet Advisory Office's plan was held in accordance with the work schedule. The agenda included reports from all the ministry's directorates and speical remarks by Rigoberto Cedeno, director of the International Relations Department, the minister and Petr (Shimoklin), chief of Soviet specialists.

The closing speech was made by Agriculture Minister Rafael Francia Mestre, who praised the people's efforts for the country's economic development, especially of the livestock-agricultural sector.

MILIAN CASTRO TOURS CIENFUEGOS SUGAR MILL

FL261307 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 79 FL

[Text] In Cienfuegos Province, Arnaldo Milian Castro, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and the Council of States, has toured the Ramon Balboa sugar mill, located in the municipality of Lajas, and the Yaguaramas farming enterprise in Abreus.

At the Ramon Balboa sugar mill, Milian learned about a technical innovation made by technicians Jose Garmendia and Isidoro de la Vega, known as the Balboa system, which increases the tandem's grinding capacity by approximately 10 percent and reduces bagasse losses. Since the system went into operation 20 days ago, it has made it possible for the sugar mill to surpass the grinding norm seven times, making the grinding more stable because it eliminates the slipping and clogging caused by the bagasse in the tandems.

Earlier in the day, the PCC Politburo member and those accompanying him toured the area of the Yaguaramas enterprise's varied crops [cultivos varios], where the workers reaffirmed their readiness to produce one million quintals of taro, plantains, sweet potatoes and potatoes this year.

GARCIA FRIAS STRESSES PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT

FL271325 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Jan 79 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member Guillermo Garcia Frias has stressed in Holguin the need to intensify the preservation of the country's flora and fauna as part of the national policy aimed at protecting the environment. The vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers and Miguel Cano Blanco, member of the PCC Central Committee and party first secretary in Holguin, chaired debates at a meeting held in Holguin under the sponsorship of the Scientific Council of the State Committee for Science and Technology.

Garcia Frias announced that in the future the 14 Cuban provinces will have reservations for the preservation of flora and fauna. He said that the country's development is incalculable.